



Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council

2008 Annual Report to the Citizens of Massachusetts

Our Mission: To provide opportunities for people with developmental disabilities and their families to enhance independence, productivity, and inclusion.

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Customer Satisfaction

The Council conducts ongoing customer satisfaction surveys and reports the results annually. Surveys are obtained from people with developmental disabilities, family members and other individuals involved with Council initiatives. The detailed survey asks respondents to rate the impact of the Council supported initiative, activity or project. Results improved in all areas over 2007.

Results

Respondents were satisfied with the activities they were involved with

98.0 % Agreed
2.0 % Disagreed

That the activities helped better their lives

98.4 % Agreed
1.6 % Disagreed

That they were treated with respect

98.4 % Agreed
1.6 % Disagreed

Opening Doors for People with Disabilities: 30 Years of Disability Legislation

The Council celebrated its 30th Annual Legislative Reception at the Massachusetts State House in March 2008. This historic event provided an opportunity to celebrate the great achievements in legislation and policy on behalf of people with disabilities, and an opportunity for individuals family members, and advocates to educate policymakers about their priorities.

More than 300 legislators, people with disabilities and families, advocates, service providers and media attended the Reception. Highlights included Governor Deval Patrick's address and his proclamation of March as "Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month." The Council and the Arc of Massachusetts provided "Legislator of the Year" awards to Senator Brian Joyce and Representative Robert DeLeo for championing several legislative initiatives on behalf of people with developmental disabilities.

Rick Hoyt, tri-athlete, was among the speakers. Rick is a pioneer in the field of communication and used his augmentation device to issue a "Call to Action" and inspire the crowd.

CIO 100 Winner

CIO Magazine honored the Council in 2008 with a CIO 100 Award as one of top 100 innovative organizations that use information technology effectively to create business value.

The Council designed and deployed the Developmental Disabilities Suite data management system, and supported a partnership of Councils from across the country to improve project management and data reliability and validity. The Council continues as a leader in operational innovation—transforming our infrastructure, analytic tools and business processes to better serve and meet the needs of our constituents with developmental disabilities.



About the Council

The Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council is pleased to present our annual Report to the Citizens of the Commonwealth.

We believe that individuals with developmental disabilities must have the opportunity to live a full, productive and independent life in the community, and that the greatest impact on public policy occurs through self-advocacy.

The Council works to effect changes in policy and practice so that people with developmental disabilities and their families are empowered and supported to be more personally independent and economically productive.

The Council promotes self-advocacy, provides opportunities for people and families to impact public policy, conducts public awareness activities, fosters coalitions with other advocacy and community groups, and supports close working relationships between public and private sector providers.

A developmental disability is defined by Public Law 106-402. Although the exact number is unknown, it is estimated that over 115,000 Massachusetts citizens have a developmental disability.

We want your feedback. Contact us at:

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Please visit our website, www.mass.gov/mddc for more information!

Initiatives and Achievements in 2008

Highlights

Areas of Emphasis are broad performance areas defined by the federal government. The Council initiated numerous projects and activities through direct funding, partnerships and collaborations in six Areas of Emphasis, including Community Supports, Education and Early Intervention, Employment, Housing, Self Advocacy and Leadership and Recreation. The Council also implemented activities to educate policymakers and the general public about issues impacting people with developmental disabilities.

In 2008, the Council met or exceeded 87.8% of its targeted performance measures within the Areas of Emphasis (43 of 49).

There were 12 projects in the area of **Community Supports**. Among the outcomes were 4,569 individuals receiving formal and informal community supports and more than \$8 million dollars leveraged for community support activities.

There were seven projects in the area of **Education and Early Intervention**. Among the outcomes were 2,767 students receiving the education and supports they need, 642 infants and young children receiving the supports they need, 914 schools improving individual education plans, 635 parents trained regarding their child's education rights, and over \$5.5 million dollars leveraged for education.

There were seven projects in the area of **Employment**. Among the outcomes were 1,169 people trained in employment strategies and over \$15,000 leveraged for employment activities.

There were four projects in the area of **Housing**. Among the outcomes were 200 units of affordable, accessible housing made available and \$700,000 leveraged for housing services.

There were eight projects in the area of **Self Advocacy/Leadership**. Among the outcomes were 421 people trained in leadership, self-advocacy, and self-determination. Over \$149,000 was leveraged for quality assurance programs.

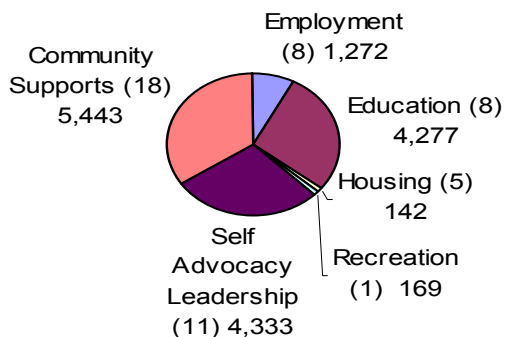
There was one project in the area of **Recreation**. Among the outcomes were five recreation programs improved and 101 people active in recreational activities.

There were seven Policymaker Education and Public Awareness projects conducted to support activities in the Areas of Emphasis. Among the outcomes were 1,396,828 people reached by Council public awareness initiatives, 339 public policymakers educated about the Council's priorities, 1,489 people trained in systems advocacy, 1,964 people actively engaged in systems advocacy and 185 entities participating in partnerships and coalitions on behalf of people with developmental disabilities.

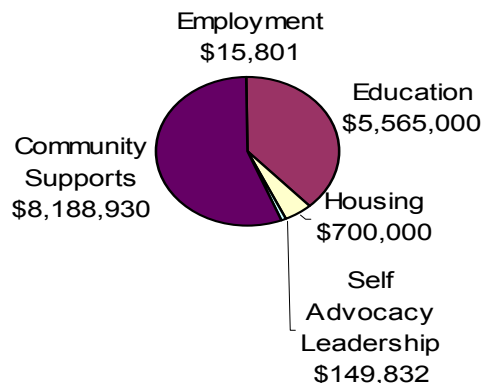
About the Pie Charts

The pie charts represent, by Area of Emphasis, the number of initiatives implemented and people impacted in 2008, and the dollars leveraged for services and supports in those areas.

Initiatives Implemented and People Impacted



Leveraged Dollars



Strategies for the Challenges Ahead

Stewardship: Performance, Accountability, and Transparency:

The Council also continues to lead a national collaboration of other Developmental Disabilities Councils in developing a more efficient, reliable, accurate, and open system for reporting on performance.

The Council continues to lead other public agencies in Massachusetts by continuing to publish a Citizen-Centric friendly report providing transparency to the citizens.

These areas demonstrate leadership, success, and a model organization that taxpayers can trust.

A Lasting Achievement: The Gopen Fellowship:

The Gopen Fellowship was founded in 2001 in honor of Barbara Wilensky Gopen, a person with a disability who spent her life advocating for people with developmental disabilities.

The fellowship is jointly sponsored by the Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Network; a partnership of the Council, the Institute for Community Inclusion, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center and the Disability Law Center.

Past Fellows have gone on to become leaders throughout the state. The 2008 Fellow successfully developed and implemented a curriculum educating elementary school students and teachers about social inclusion for children. In 2009 the Network will develop strategies to expand this opportunity to more individuals.

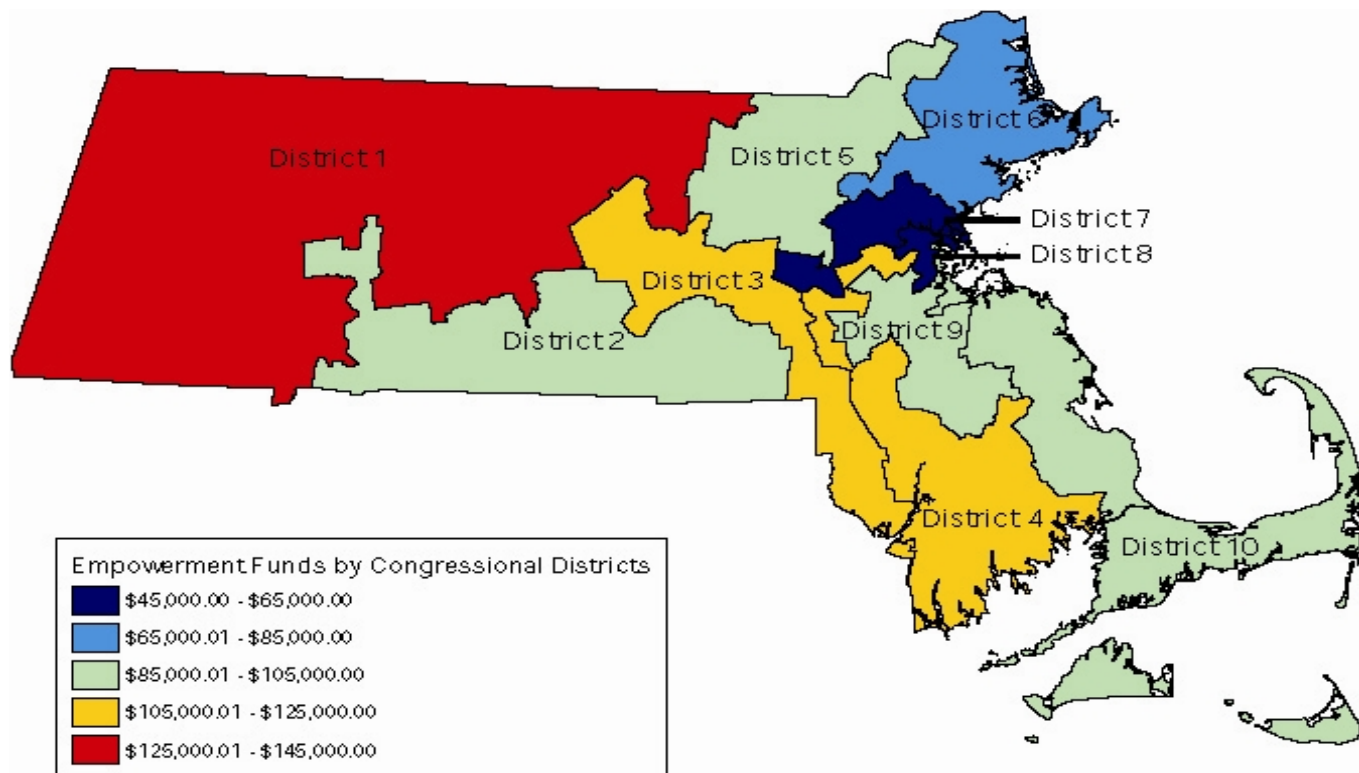


Training Leaders for Tomorrow: The Self-Advocacy Leadership Series

The Self-Advocacy Leadership Series teaches leadership skills to self-advocates and prepares them to serve as leaders in the community. With 31 new graduates in 2008 there are 115 graduates to date. A fourth class will be added in 2009 to address the overwhelming demand. The Council is also developing a train the trainer series to teach people with disabilities to train their peers, creating job opportunities and allowing more people to benefit from this valuable training.

Investing in the Future: Citizen Empowerment

Since its inception over 10 years ago the Council's Citizen Empowerment program has provided over \$900,000 to individuals with developmental disabilities and family members to attend conferences, trainings and workshops to gain vital skills for independence and inclusion. This investment helps expand the network of committed advocates contributing to the community and supporting the Council's initiatives. In 2009 the Council will review its strategies for insuring equitable distribution of funds.



Please visit our website, www.mass.gov/mddc for more information!

Allocation of Resources

Primary Sources of Revenue

Source of Revenue	2008 Revenue (in \$)
Federal Funding	\$1,322,928
Commonwealth Non- Financial Match	\$283,647
Sub-Grant Match	\$310,545
Developmental Disabilities Suite National Collaboration	\$85,110
Total Revenue	\$2,002,229

The financial mission of the Council is to maximize the usage of our federal awards, while leveraging additional resources from the Commonwealth; in partnerships, and with our grantees; to support meeting our State Plan goals and objectives.

Note: The Council is funded through a federal formula grant and is authorized under Subtitle B of Public Law 106-402, the Developmental Disabilities Act of 2000, and through state Executive Order #439.

Independent Audit

An independent audit was conducted, resulting in a clean audit opinion. Complete financial information is available at www.mass.gov/osc.

Primary Expenses

By Functional Area	2008 Expense (in \$)
State Plan Implementation	\$1,619,674
Council Administration	\$297,445
Developmental Disabilities Suite National Collaboration	\$85,110
Total Expense	\$2,002,229

By Major Activity Area	2008 Expense (in \$)
Self Advocacy	\$138,069
Citizen Empowerment	\$254,469
Leadership Training	\$64,331
Legislative Education	\$67,437
Public Policy	\$878,571
State Developmental Disabilities Network Collaboration	\$216,798
Developmental Disabilities Suite National Collaboration	\$85,110
Council Administration	\$297,445
Total Expense	\$2,002,229

By Mission Area	2008 Expense (in \$)
Advocacy	\$996,228
Capacity Building	\$199,768
Systems Change	\$423,678
Developmental Disabilities Suite National Collaboration	\$85,110
Council Administration	\$297,445
Total Expense	\$2,002,229

By Area of Emphasis	2008 Expense (in \$)
Education and Early Intervention	\$313,268
Employment	\$162,120
Housing	\$92,210
Healthcare	\$3,333
Self Advocacy/Leadership	\$665,019
Community Supports	\$443,084
Educating Policymakers/Public Awareness	\$28,250
Council Administration	\$297,445
Total Expense	\$2,002,229

About this Report

Each year the Council submits a Program Performance Report to the U.S. Administration on Developmental Disabilities detailing the advocacy, capacity building and systemic change activities that the Council has undertaken in an effort to meet its State Plan goals and objectives. The 2008 report is the second annual report for the current five-year plan. Copies of the full State Plan and Program Performance Report are available at www.mass.gov/mddc. *Alternative formats of this report are available. We welcome questions and comments about this report. Please see our contact information on page 1.*



Please visit our website, www.mass.gov/mddc for more information!